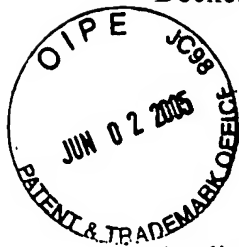


IFW

Docket No. 448-001



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kirchner et al )  
Serial No.: 10/779,829 ) Art Unit 2858  
Filed: February 17, 2004 ) Examiner:  
For: OPERATOR SENSING CIRCUIT FOR DISABLING ) Anjan K. Deb  
MOTOR OF POWER EQUIPMENT )

Commissioner of Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

ELECTION OF INVENTION

Sir:

In response to the requirement for restriction mailed May 5, 2005, Applicant hereby elects the invention of Group I, claims 1-6, and 14-16, drawn to an operator sensing circuit and method comprising a capacitor discharge range that is effective to distinguish between the presence of an operator's hand and foreign material on the gripping surface for avoiding a false hands-on signal.

Respectfully submitted,

Neil F. Markva  
Attorney for Applicant

8322-A Traford Lane  
Springfield, Virginia 22152  
(703) 644-5000